



Starke County Economic Development Foundation
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**STARKE COUNTY INITIATIVE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING (SCILL)
CONTINUES ADULT WELDING TRAINING COURSES**

KNOX, IN, August 28, 2014- Have you ever dreamt about seeking to start a new career, but did not know how to receive the necessary training to do so? Well, SCILL changes lives, one person at a time. Through SCILL and their partners, they provide Starke County with customized training for area industries to meet their specific needs, vocational high school programs in automotive and welding technology, an adult program in welding technology, computer software training, and literacy programs. SCILL's mission is to offer learning opportunities that are close by, flexible, and promptly responsive to the needs of employers, employees, the underemployed, the discouraged and the unemployed for Starke County, the City of Knox, and the towns of Hamlet and North Judson.

SCILL offers an Adult Welding Technology Program which is a 12 week, four-hour, two evenings per week program for beginning welders or for those wishing to upgrade their skills or obtain certification. By participating in this program, SCILL gives students and employers the opportunity to visit job fairs and contact with area industries through plant tours and speakers who are in need of trained welders. Students also receive training with interviewing and resume writing during this time. The SCILL Adult Welding Technology Program registration fee of \$2,000 includes all necessary materials for completion of the course. Eligible participants may have some or all of the course fees paid for by making application through WorkOne.

The SCILL Adult Welding Technology Program uses instructors who are AWS certified and bring a great deal of hands-on knowledge to the classroom and lab. They are highly trained both in

teaching and in their knowledge of welding and the various welding techniques. The participants at SCILL are instructed on blueprint reading/symbols, welding measurements, safety, MIG/TIG/Stick welding, aluminum welding, stainless welding, rolled pipe welding, oxy acetylene welding, brazing, plasma cutting, and oxy fuel burning.

One student, who resides in Knox, had originally heard about the SCILL program through high school and has since then completed the Adult Welding Technology Program. Throughout the program, he enjoyed learning something new every day and said the instructors were very knowledgeable about their career. Because of his experience through the SCILL Adult Welding Program, he has had three different job offerings and now works with the Braun Corporation in Winamac.

SCILL also offers an advanced welding program that tailors the training to the individual's needs. A prospective student is evaluated on their welding skills and that specific evaluation is then weighted on the student's ultimate goals. SCILL then designs an individual training program for that student which matches where he wants to be, against where his skills level is at presently. This program can range from a few weeks of brushing up skills in preparation to take a certification test, to a long range program. SCILL currently has two adult students who are on pace to complete pipe fitter training in August of 2016. This advanced program is designed to be as flexible as possible to help match a prospective student's needs.

If interested in enrolling in the SCILL Adult Welding Technology Program, simply contact your local WorkOne office, contact SCILL directly, or use the online application found at www.scill.biz. Students will be exposed to internship opportunities with local businesses, which will help to further solidify their career path and increase their experience for employment after graduation and possible employment with local and area businesses.

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